

# Long-Term Care Call 12/1/21

- Updates from HAI-AR
  - Omicron
  - NH Data
  - Tips of the Week
- FLIS Updates

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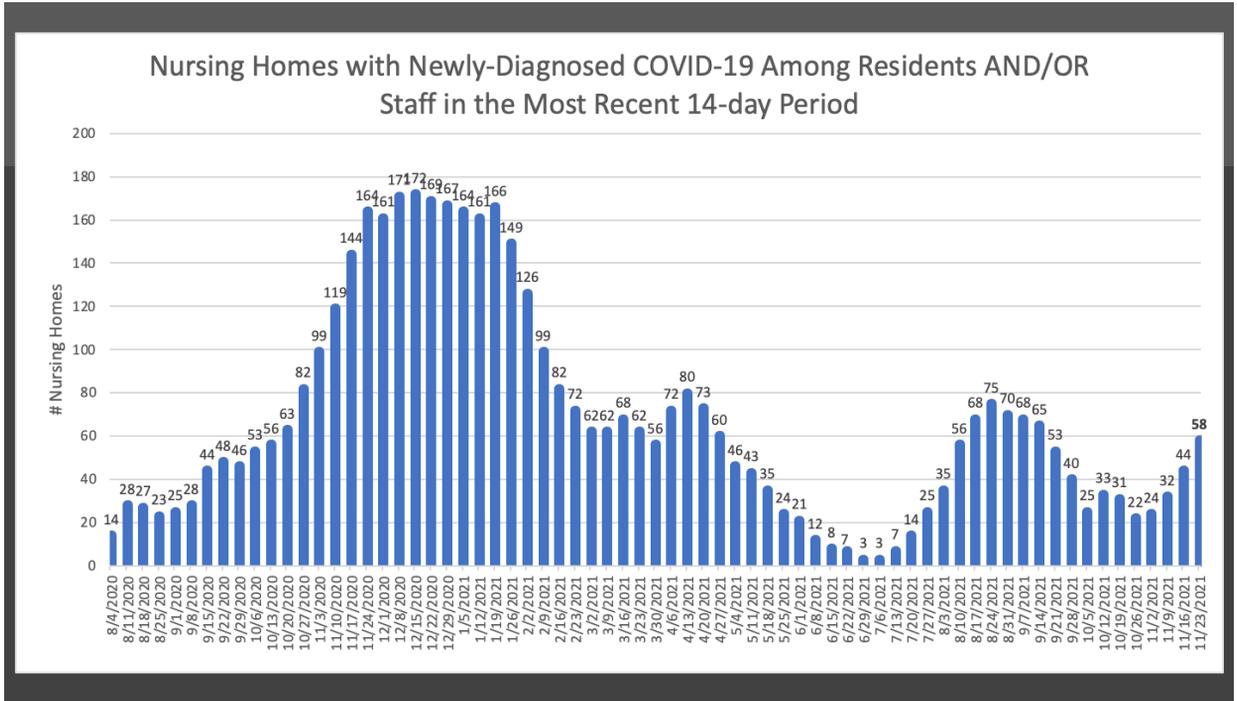
## Omicron Variant

- No cases of this variant have been identified in the US to date, but we do expect it to come to the US and to CT
  - DPH has contracted laboratories to identify variants in CT.
  - SARS-CoV-2 specimens in CT undergo genomic sequencing at a higher rate than the national rate.
- During outbreaks of vaccine breakthrough in long-term care, HAI-AR Program can work with you to get specimens to the State Lab for genomic sequencing.

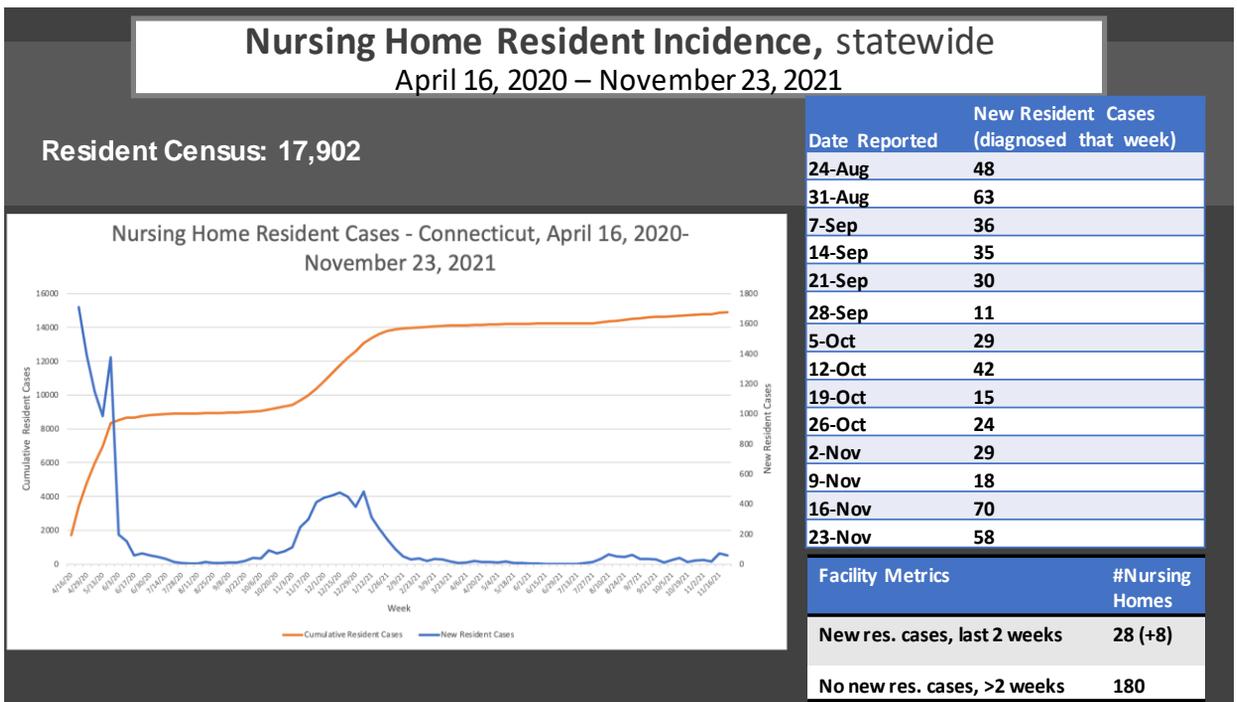
### While it is a new variant, same prevention strategies apply

- Wear a mask in indoor settings, particularly in areas of substantial to high community transmission.
- Wash hands frequently
- Maintain social distancing
- Get vaccinated if unvaccinated
- Get a COVID-19 vaccine booster for those that are eligible

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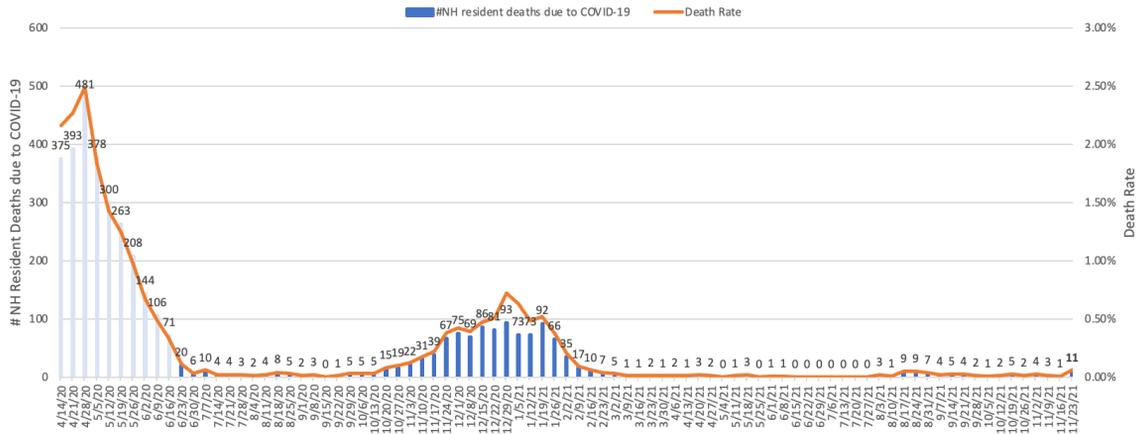


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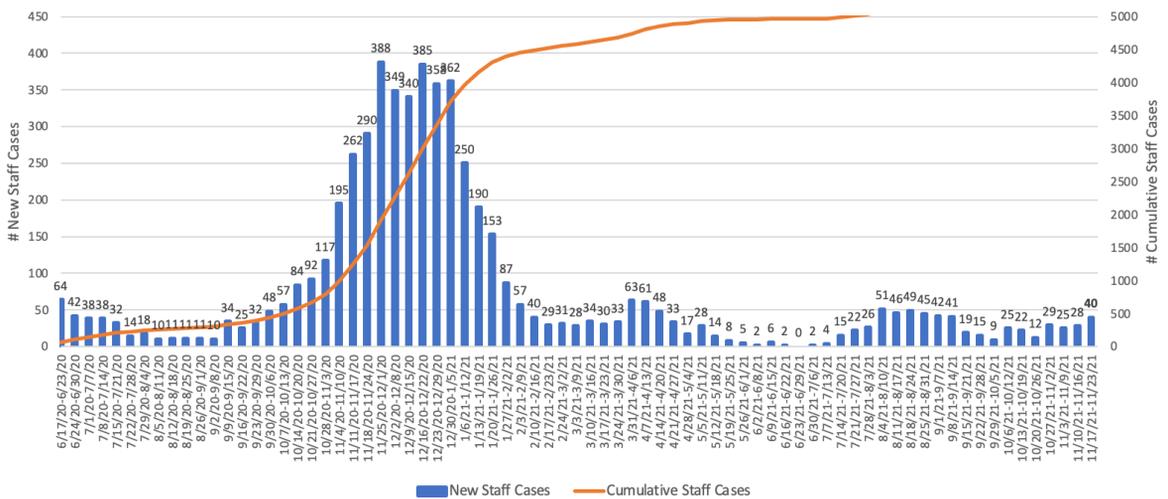
### Nursing Home Resident Deaths Associated to COVID-19 4/15/2020-11/23/2021



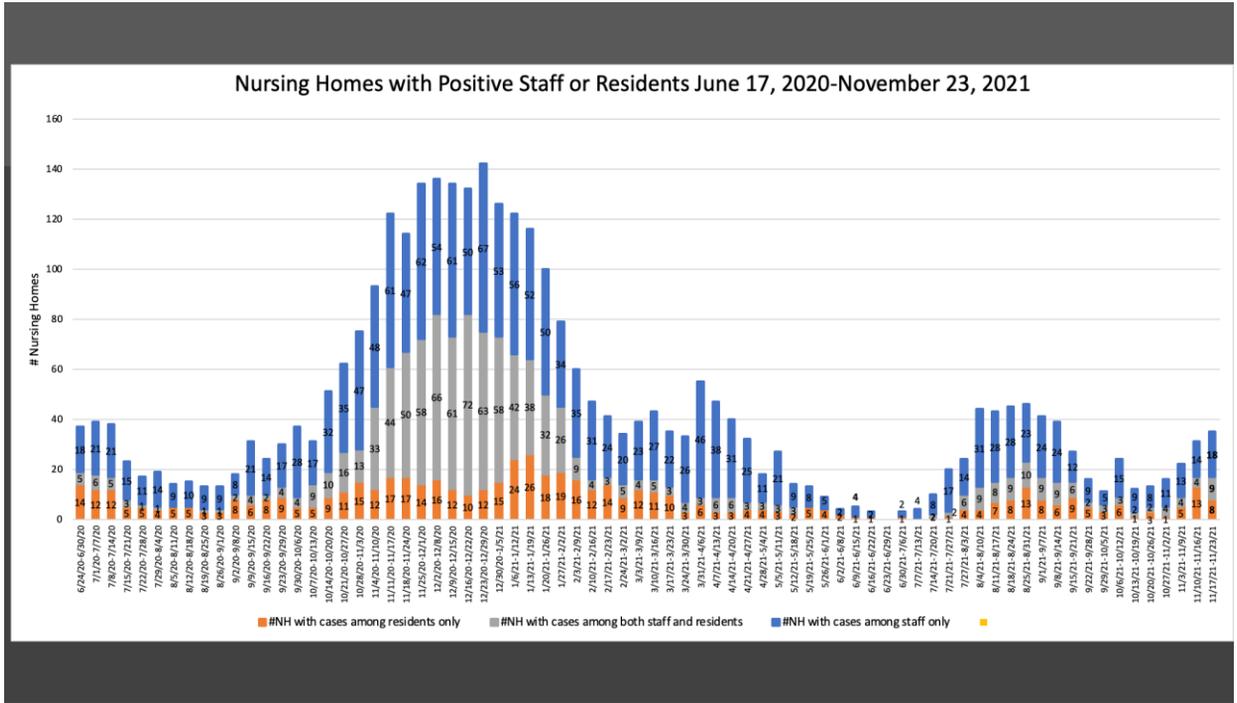
Note: Light blue= OCME lab-confirmed and suspected deaths due to COVID-19, Darker blue= NHSN data

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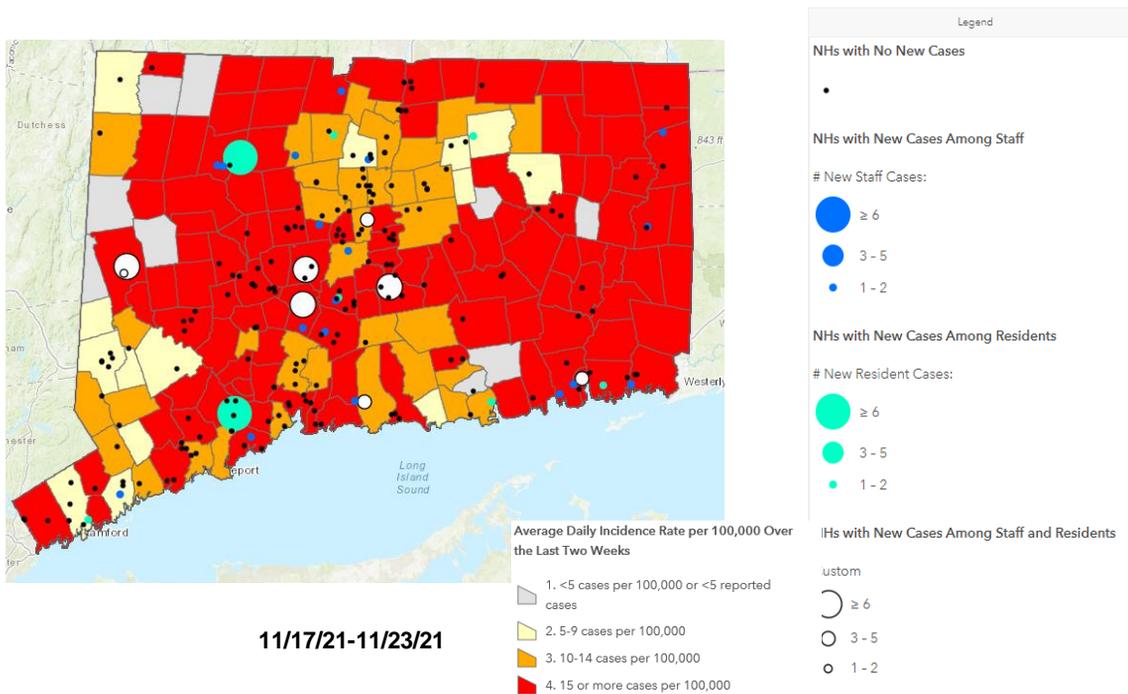
### Staff Cases in Connecticut Nursing Homes June 17, 2020–November 23, 2021



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## Nursing Home Resident COVID-19 Vaccination Rates: Primary Series, as of 11/14/2021

### Resident Vax Rates (202 NHs reported)

- Average 91%
- Median 94%
- Range 67-100%

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## Nursing Home Staff COVID-19 Vaccination Rates: **NHSN** data, primary series, as of 10/14/2021

### Staff Vaccination Rates (204 NHs reported)

- Average 96%
- Median 97%
- Range 81-100%

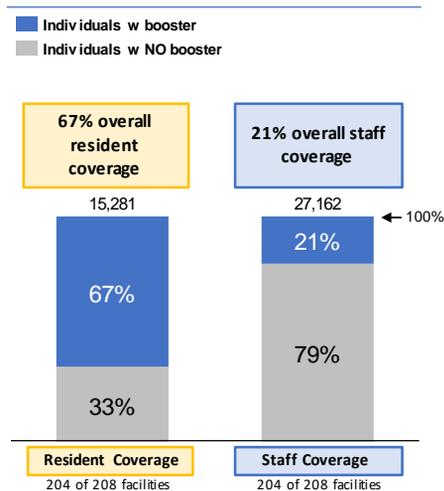
**NHSN Staff Definition:** HCP are defined as those who were **eligible to have worked** at this healthcare facility for **at least 1 day during the week of data collection, regardless of clinical responsibility or patient contact [defined by CMS as individuals who work in the facility on a regular (weekly) basis]**. HCP eligible to have worked include employees (staff on facility payroll), licensed independent practitioners (physicians, advanced practice nurses, & physician assistants), adult students/trainees & volunteers, and other contract personnel who are scheduled to work in the facility at least one day every week. For more information, please see [here](#).

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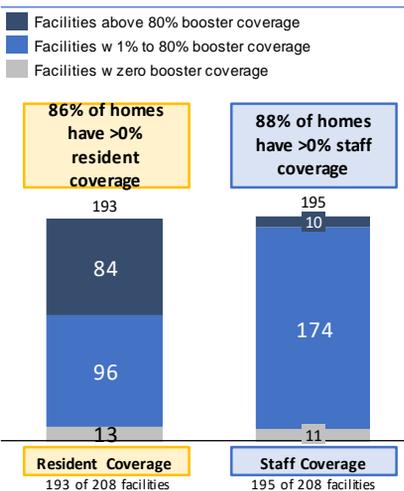
# Nursing Home Booster Coverage

Reported via NHSN | As of November 21, 2021

## Booster Coverage - Individuals



## Booster Coverage - NH Facilities



- Average resident coverage among homes that have started rolling out boosters is 72%
- Median resident coverage among homes that have started rolling out boosters is 79%
- DPH strongly recommends that NHs hold booster clinics before 12/15. Email [dph.immunizations@ct.gov](mailto:dph.immunizations@ct.gov) if you cannot find an earlier clinic date.

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## Tips of the Week

**New Booster Update:** Everyone age 18+ SHOULD get a COVID-19 vaccine booster shot.

- At least 2 months after 1-dose vaccine, J&J vaccine **OR**
- At least 6 months after a 2-dose vaccine, Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna

**Bolster screening at the door** (symptoms, exposure, appropriate source control, etc.)

- Symptomatic staff have contributed to outbreaks – don't let them in!
- Visitors should only have close contact with the resident they are visiting

**Monitor Booster Coverage for Short-Term Residents**

- Booster clinics are not necessarily a one-time event.
- Establish a system to determine when additional booster clinics are needed, and to offer them with appropriate timing.

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**Where to find COVID-19 Guidance:**

CDC may periodically update guidance. ***Please follow CDC guidance.***

CT DPH may release additional guidance *if further clarifications or specifications are needed.*

1. [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations to Prevent SARS-CoV-2 Spread in Nursing Homes](#)
2. [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Pandemic](#)

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## Assisted Living Contacts

**FLIS:** Elizabeth T Heiney

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**DPH HAI-AR/ICNC Call on  
Wednesday, December 15 at 2pm**